16th February 1950] [Mr. Chairman]

very valuable power in your hands and it depends upon you to wield that power to see that what is a majority party to-day is converted into a minority. You have two advantages: You have got the public to judge you and you have got this valuable right of converting the majority into a minority and yourself stepping into office. Such being the case, I do not think that it is proper for the Opposition to say that because their viewpoints had not been accepted, they would walk out. Honestly speaking and without any disparagement to anybody, I think it is a dereliction of duty on the part of any member of the House to say so. My point is, if you feel you are so useless I should think the only course open is to resign saying: I have done according to my lights; if anybody else could do better, I will yield my place to him. It is not for him to remain and say: I will remain but still not do my duty. I can best illustrate the position by making myself an example. By your choice, I am here; I am a human being; I have my own views and my own point of view about the various measures brought before the House. Supposing I do not like this Bill and the provisions offend against my ideas of what is good for the villages, can I say: I shall get out; you carry on. If I cannot say so, I do not think any other member can say so. I only say what is the proper attitude of any hon. Member of the House to take and I do not want the hon. the Leader of the Opposition or any other member to strain his loyalty to me. Let them not say: I had no mind to participate or co-operate in the passage of a Bill, but I had to do it out of respect to your views. Whatever they do, it is their own responsibility; let them not say: Because you wanted us to be here we are remaining here. I hope it is their sense of duty that will make them remain to carry on their duties which they had so willingly taken and perform them according to the oaths recently taken by them.

"I very much appreciate the attitude taken by the Opposition to-day and I hope they will continue to give the same kind of co-operation. Let them also realize that Opposition also is co-operation. I hope there will not be any other opportunity for such kind of attitude being taken by the Opposition. Thank you very much."

II.—SWEARING-IN OF A MEMBER.

Janab K. T. M. Ahamad Ibrahim was sworn in.

The Council adjourned till 2-30 p.m. on the 27th of February 1950.